

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Public Works Site Small Area Guide Process**  
**Community Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
**Edina City Hall Council Chambers**

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**City Staff Present:**

**Heather Worthington, Assistant City Manager**

**The following CAT Members were present:**

**Kevin Staunton, Chair**

**Chris Rofidal**

**Bob Shadduck**

**Ellen Jones**

**Sue Davison**

**Gene Persha**

**Mike Platteter**

**Lisa Diehl**

**Steve Buss**

**Richard Borland**

**Josh Sprague**

**Linda Odell**

**Larry Cheslter**

**Kim Montgomery**

**Greg Domke**

**Andy Brown**

**Design Team Present:**

**Mike Fischer**

**Peter Sussman**

**Council Members Present:**

**Mayor Hovland**

**Ann Swenson**

**Joni Bennett**

**Others Present:**

**Peyton Robb**

**Wayne Wenger**

**Stefan Helgeson**

**Brenda Quaye**

**Linda Lorenz**

**Tom Bonneville**

**David Davison**

**Nancy Peterson**

**Jim Miller**

## **Introduction**

Chair Staunton called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and gave a brief update on the new Public Works facility and an overview of the public works small area guide plan process to date.

Chair Fischer said that this evening there will be four group exercises; "Fun Work" for the attendees to participate in. They are as follows:

1. Issues
2. Susceptibility to Change
3. Ideas
4. Naming

Chair Fischer announced that this evening the attendees will break into groups and as a group submit their comments to be shared on each exercise.

## **Table Highlights:**

### **Table 1. Stephan Helgeson, Kim Montgomery and Larry Chestler. Spokesperson, Stephan Helgeson.**

Stephan Helgeson

- Retain & Enhance
- Transit opportunities
- Nothing is sacred. Buildings have turned over during the last 50 years and will continue to do so
- Workability
- Green Development
- Medium Density

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Public land is retained and enhanced (including easements).
2. Multimodal transit opportunities – leverage unique characteristics.
3. Capture untapped potential for this area to be a real "town center"
4. Improve walkability in the area.
5. Medium-density green development

### **Table 2. Brenda Quaye, Linda Odell, Josh Sprague and Joni Bennett. Spokesperson, Linda Odell**

Linda Odell

- Lack of central anchor
- Need pedestrian facilities

- Traffic congestion
- Lack of retail diversity
- Look at transportation long term
- Develop design aesthetics
- n/end of public works site lends itself well to a parking ramp/trans. Hub/light rail
- s/end open area
- Relocate bus garage, multi-use building
- Lose Mr. Steak building. Raise up Vernon Avenue businesses.

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Lack of central parking, east and west of railroad and under parked.
2. Lack of pedestrian infrastructure, circulation and connectivity.
3. Traffic congestion.
4. Lack of retail (variety) "Take Out", "Dining".
5. Consideration of "Long Term" Regional Public Transportation needs and plans.
6. Lack of design aesthetic like 50<sup>th</sup> & France.

**Table 3. Greg Domke, Peyton Robb, Andy Brown and Wayne Wenger  
Spokesperson, Greg Domke.**

Greg Domke

- Redevelop around Jerry's. Jerry's is the anchor.
- Retain Jerry's and City Hall
- Build ramp north side public works bldg/connect w/existing ramp
- Everything else open to redevelopment

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Not pedestrian friendly. Not a gateway.
2. Preserve transit hub space, ramp for future needs and more parking.
3. Traffic flow for cars not great.
4. More/rebuild bus garage
5. More parking

**Table 4. Gene Persha, Peter Sussman, Sue Davison and David Davison.  
Spokesperson, Gene Persha**

Gene Persha:

- Transportation Hub – light rail, transit stop, biking accessibility
- Clover leaf/landscaping need upgrade
- Pedestrian access/bicycle friendly
- Short term vs. long term. Short term more problematic – green space. Long term – buildings.



- ? because the present use is public does this mean a public use in the future?

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Area dominated by cars.
2. Internal and external disconnection (islands)
3. Proximity to RR line and Highway 100 – assets.
4. Character for community – commercial-preserve.
5. Bike pedestrian unfriendliness
6. Topography

**Table 5. Lisa Diehl Jim Miller and Nancy Peterson. Spokesperson Lisa Diehl**

Lisa Diehl:

- Transportation
- Pedestrian/bike unfriendly
- Area is not guided – lack of connectivity
- No community identity
- Maintain vehicle ribbon along Vernon Avenue - mixed use, have development be formed by Vernon Avenue, circulation, parking to take place internally emphasizing pedestrian focus/green link
- Make connections to OLG, Grandview better.
- Community Center in middle for connectivity to 50<sup>th</sup>/France via Eden Avenue
- Stronger link to 50<sup>th</sup> and France. Consider a City intramodel shuttle from this area to 50<sup>th</sup> and France.

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Transportation – fragmented physically and functionally.
2. Not pedestrian/bike friendly.
3. Area not guided
4. Lack of connectivity
5. Community identity lacking

**Table 6. Kevin Staunton, Lynda Lorenz, Richard Borland and Steve Buss. Spokesperson, Kevin Staunton**

Kevin Staunton:

- Gathering Space – Pedestrian friendly plaza
- Leverage – keeping it as leverage for future changes, rather than keeping it only as a public use.
- City Hall, OLG, Washburn McGreevy, Senior Center/Library Grandview Tire & Auto all permanent.

- Jerry's, Davanni's, etc. may change (good businesses now)
- Connect library/Sr. Center to City Hall
- Eliminate "goofy" Eden off ramp by Eden Avenue Grille

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Traffic/Transportation / Infrastructure.
2. Pedestrian friendliness.
3. Gathering Space
4. Transit
5. Leverage?

**Table 7. Mike Platteter, Chris Rofidal, Bob Shadduck, Ellen Jones and Tom Bonneville. Spokesperson, Mike Platteter.**

Michael Platteter:

- Transportation is the biggest piece
- Area isn't pedestrian friendly
- Geographic limitations
- Image – structures are outdated
- Gateway into this part of Edina. What do you see? Does it reflect the community?
- Marketability – Mixed use
- Ownership issues
- Bus garage and public works building = potential
- Everything is wide open
- Parkland/community gardens
- Community Center, health club/above/below residential or office?

Written Comments via Work Sheet. List the five issues discussed by your group:

1. Transportation: Uncertainty of future use of 100 and MnDot or other sites, lack of connection to rest of site, accessibility by bikes, pedestrians.
2. Geographic restrictiveness: Geographic boundaries pose limitations, the grade changes.
3. Image: some structures are out-dated and do not fit with the quality of Edina.
4. Ownership of several parcels of land and not easily redeveloped
5. Marketability: Residential, local hub

Idea card sheets were also collected. They contained the following: Draw, describe, or otherwise communicate your idea.....

- Create a greenway over the railroad tracks between the parking ramp creating a tunnel effect over the rail line.

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- Put in a recreation center in the area providing exercise space, community meeting space on some level.
- If school district wants to keep buses centrally located put buses underneath at the lowest level of a sight being redeveloped with public parking over that, with residential and/or office on top. This would go over public works site.

Participants were also encouraged via a Naming Card to name the study area: Names suggested were as follows:

JEDA (Jerry's Edina Development Area)  
Edina Gateway  
Eden Center  
Bridges over Edina  
Arcadia  
The Bridges  
Edina Town Square  
Edina West  
Future Zone  
Brookside Hollow  
The Eye (picture of eye for eye) of Edina  
Edina Hub  
ETC (Edina Transit Center)  
Eden Heights  
Arcadia Hills  
Edina City Center  
Edina Greenway  
Grandview Commons  
The Danen District  
The Crossroads  
Edina Crossroads  
The Bridges  
Prospect Park  
Grandview  
The Edina Crossing

Chair Staunton announced that Thursday's meeting would begin at 6:30 pm, not 7 pm. Jack Broz would try to come to the Design Team meeting at 2:00 on Friday.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm